

**INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROPAGATORS' SOCIETY  
SOUTHERN REGION of NORTH AMERICA (SRNA)**

**43rd Annual Business Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 24, 2018**

**The Read House Hotel  
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

President Dave Creech called the meeting to order at 9:50 am. Kevin Gantt gave the invocation.

**Necrology Report.** Brie Arthur gave the report. John Mike Anderson, a past member from MSU, Poplarville, Mississippi passed away a few weeks ago. President Creech then asked the membership to bow their heads in a moment of silence.

**Minutes of 2017 Annual Business Meetings.** Editor Fred Davies presented the minutes of the annual business meeting of October 31, 2017 at the Omni Park West Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX. Davies remarked that an email was sent several weeks prior to Chattanooga that the minutes were available on the SR-IPPS website - so members could come more prepared to the annual business meeting. A motion was made by Charles Parkerson and seconded by Brie Arthur to accept the minutes, which was unanimously approved. President Creech thanked Davies for his report.

**Treasurer's Report.** Secretary-Treasurer Donna Foster thanked local site chair, Amy Fulcher and her committee for the excellent venue, meeting and tours. She thanked the "4-pack" students [Vivian Munday Young Horticultural Professional Scholarship Work program]: George Grant (University of Florida), Kaitlin Barrios (University of Georgia), Nastaran Basiri Johromi (University of Tennessee) and John Nix (North Carolina State University) - who had an awesome experience and were incredibly helpful for Local Site Chair, Amy Fulcher, and Sec-Tres, Foster - in running this year's meeting. In exchange for their work, they are given free registration and a hotel room to share.

The SR-IPPS had a good year. We have 254 regular members & 13 student members; (253 in 2017; 231 members in 2016), which is the highest number in ten years. The Student Membership program was started this year. Each student member is paired with an industry and academic mentor. There are 13 new Student members of which 9 attended the Chattanooga meeting. Foster prefers the quality control of the SR Student membership program - where the applicant has to write about themselves, and have a mentor/professor sign for them. [The key is to get the student to our annual conference so they can see the potential value of IPPS membership]. This year's sponsorship raised \$41,500, with \$8000 in-kind donations. We raised \$10,347 from the silent and live auctions which is to go towards the SR Educational Endowment Fund. She reported on the IPPS-SRNA Financial Report from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Foster remarked that we did very well financially during the past year. She then presented the proposed budget for 2018-2019, which is attached. There were 261 registered attendees at this year's annual meeting. Because of better financial footing, this is the sixth year of The *Early-Career Propagator Exchange Program*. Jasper Schermer from the European Region was hosted by J. Berry Nursery (Judson LeCompte) - taking him to many nurseries and gardens. Lindsay Day was selected from the SRNA for the *Early-Career Propagator Exchange Program* to visit the industry in Europe. Our region contributes \$12,250- \$10,000 annually in student and early professional career sponsorship funds. This will be augmented substantially by the new SR-IPPS Education Endowment Fund that was launched last year. Strong sponsorship and the new SR Education Endowment will enable the SR to keep annual registration costs as low as possible for members.

We are on firm footing with no debt and have been building up our reserves to an acceptable level. Our current goal to build up one year's operating expenses in reserve – has been accomplished. We have started to look at more actively managing our investments in the future. We raised \$41,500 in sponsorship this year - which has been critical for keeping us solvent. Foster thanked Brie Arthur for all of her efforts as the Sponsorship Chair. Foster thanked Elliott Hallum for the monthly email letter he sends to the membership. She remarked that to increase our membership – the personal touch of talking to and asking people to come attend and join is most effective. Tom Yaeger questioned about meeting insurance (fall hurricanes possibly cancelling an annual meeting). Foster responded that the meeting cancellation insurance is cost-prohibitive and that we have enough funds in reserve if the annual meeting is cancelled due to a weather event. President Creech thanked Foster for her report and acknowledged the tremendous service she does for the organization.

**Audit Report.** Chair, Kevin Gantt acknowledged his committee of Bill Turk and Dave Creech. They reported all financial statements were in order and the SR is in good financial shape. They recommended that no financial audit be required this year. He commended Sec-Tres, Donna Foster, for doing an excellent job of keeping the financial records, and sending out monthly reports to the Board. Gantt recommended that the audit be kept as a line item on the annual budget. President Creech thanked Gantt for his report.

**International Director's Report.** Alternate International Delegate Tom Saunders gave the report, which included a powerpoint presentation of the International Tour. He reviewed the International Meeting and tour that took place with the U.S. Eastern Region. He thanked the board for the honor that he and Bill Turk are given to represent the SR- IPPS.

- Considerable time was spent revising the Constitution which had been thoroughly reviewed by Peggy Walsh Craig, and our own two International representatives, Donna Fare (past) & Bill Turk (current).
- The biggest issue that the general membership will notice is an annual dues increase. The 2019 dues will increase from \$96 to \$105 to cover part of the \$15 international dues increase over a 2-year period; the 2020 dues would need to be increased an additional \$6.
- There was considerable discussion in how to generate sponsorships on a North American level. The goal would be to attract International companies like Kubota and John Deere to give at a level that each region's income from those particular companies (assuming they are donors) would not decrease. The sponsorship amount would be split 4 ways: the 3 North American regions plus the International. Saunders remarked on the need to retain the IPPS logo, but remove the word "Propagator", since it limits our ability to attract sponsorship money. Our name needs to be more encompassing. We should consider: **IPPS – International Plant Professional Society.**
- A second area of discussion relates to ultimately having a secretary for multiple regions. Eastern Region secretary, Margot Bridgen, is retiring soon and having a secretary who manages 2 regions may help streamline some processes. There may be a North American editor who publishes all talks from the three regions. These are issues for discussion.
- There was time devoted to critiquing the website and trying to find ways to make it more appealing.
- Membership attraction was also targeted.
- There were some housekeeping chores, such as moving Designated Funds from the Balance Sheet to the Cash Reserve Fund.
- Paul Cappiello, who organized the 2018 International Tour, suggested that possibly a commercial tour company assist with future International Tours.
- To expand membership, Alan Jones and a few others volunteered to attend a conference in India in February 2019 about forming a region there.
- The next International conference call is 5 December 2018.
- There were 23 students who came to the Eastern Region meeting. The SR had 15 students apply for the Vivian Munday 4-pack student program. Since only four were awarded, there were 11 unsupported

students who could become members. It was the general consensus of the EC that we increase student support in 2019 when we meet in Baton Rouge.

- For the proposed “sponsorship” to work – it needs to be with “new” sponsorships coming from larger international companies: John Deere, Kubota, etc. – not cutting the pie with existing sponsors – which would be to the financial detriment of the SR.
- The SR-IPPS EC raised strong objection to the Eastern Region coming to Raleigh in 2021, particularly since the SR will be hosting the International in NC in 2023. Elliott Hallum and Dave Creech are to co-write a letter to the Eastern Region for them to pick another location – and welcome them to join the international tour in NC in 2023. The SR is opposed to a joint meeting (which we always lose money on) – unless it is in an adjoining state, i.e. Maryland, etc. General consensus was to remain open to helping the International and other regions – but not to the detriment of the SR.

President Creech thanked Saunders for this report.

**Long-Range Site Committee Report.** Allen Owings gave the report for Chair, Benjamin Berry.

Owings thanked Local Site Chair, Amy Fulcher, Donna Fare, Elliott Hallum, Alex Newbauer and Anthony Witcher and their committee and fabulous volunteers for site selection, meal and transportation arrangements, and for organizing two days of exciting tours.

The next annual meetings are as follows:

<b>2019</b>	<b>Baton Rouge, Louisiana</b>	Allen Owings will be the local site chair. It will be in Baton Rouge at the Crown Plaza Hotel. October 12-16, 2019.
<b>2020</b>	<b>Tulsa, Oklahoma.</b>	Todd Lasseigne will be the local site chair. October 24-28, 2020.
<b>2021</b>	<b>Mobile, Alabama.</b>	Jeremy Pickens is the local site chair and Bill Turk and Bobby Green are on the local site committee.
<b>2022</b>	<b>Open</b>	Preferably on the East Coast, possibly Georgia.
<b>2023</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	We will host the International Tour.

President Creech thanked Owings for his report.

**Membership Committee Report and Welcoming of New Members.** Chair, Chris Marble, gave the report. He asked everyone to pay their dues by 31 Dec 2018. He reported on the new Student Membership program. Nine of the students in attendance were recognized Monday at the meeting. This group is about one-on-one: encouraging and engaging potential new members. Everyone learns new things to help their nurseries and for personal development. New student members are: Debalina Saha, Claire Krofft, George Grant, Jay Penney, Anthony Bowden, Garrett Noonan, Kaitlin Swaintek, Brianna Heilsnis, Alexis Anthony, Summer Henderson, Gabriel Campbell, Patrick Moore and Christina Jennings

The SR has 257 regular members + 13 student members. This is an increase in membership: 253 (2017), 231 (2016), 232 (2015) and 225 (2014). This is the highest level of SR members in eleven years - a 14% increase since 2014! The SR is growing its membership – unlike the other world regions.

Marble thanked his committee: Brie Arthur, Bobby Green, Christine Coker, Mike Rowe, Anthony Witcher, Jason Tagg, Blane Stokley, and Cheryl Boyer. The SR Student Membership implemented this year is similar to the ER, Southern Africa, Australian and New Zealand regions. However, the SR free student membership has a 2-year sun-set period; students have the responsibility to reapply, if still a student, or to become a regular member. The program pairs-up students with industry and academic mentors to get them involved with the SR. The long-term goal is to cultivate and attract new members to future careers in the green industry.

The 27 new members recognized during the Monday session were: Lisa Alexander, Natalie Alldredge, Lori Cason, Amanda Clark, Dionne D'mello, Emily Driskill, Gretchen Dubbs, Jeb Fields, Trevor Hilburn, David Hoffman, Andrew King, John Klinger, Ernest Koone, III, Todd Leeson, David Marks, Jacob Martin, Molly McLain, Mindy Money, Debbie Odom, Elizabeth Riley, Caitlyn Rivas, T. Rude, Douglas Ruhren, Jenny Ryals, Brian Stubbs, Greg White and Robert Wilkinson.

Five year plaques were given to: Brie Arthur, Val Bednarek, Lee Bloomcamp, Christopher Brown, William Jones, Jerrold Moody, David Parks and Matthew Shreckhise. President Creech thanked Marble for his report.

**Recognition of Sponsors.** Earlier in the conference the following companies & individuals were recognized for their sponsorship – which is vital to the operations, education and student research programs of the SR. The following sponsors were:

**Platinum sponsor-** Hidden Hollow Nursery

**Gold sponsors-** Alabama Nursery and landscape Association, Endless Summer and First Editions, Blackmore Co/ Ellepot USA, Environmental Design, Inc., Greenleaf Nursery Co, Harrell's, LLC, Haviland Plastic Products, IC-L Osmocote, J. Berry Nursery, Mountain Creek Nursery, NuFarm Americas, Inc., OHP, Inc., Rootmaker Products Co.

**Silver sponsors-** Corteva AgriScience, Don Blocker and McHutchison, Inc., Hawksridge Farms, Inc., Hip Labels, Inc., Plant Development Services, Inc., Star Roses and Plants, Tennessee Valley Nursery, Transcend Nursery

**Bronze Sponsor-** Pleasant Cove Nursery

**Student Research Awards.** Chair, Mack Thetford reported on the *Charlie Parkerson IPPS Student Research Awards* program. Thetford thanked all the volunteers who helped in evaluating the student research awards: reading their papers and evaluating the oral presentations. Thetford asked for more volunteers, since the program is growing. There were 12 paper submissions, which is a new record. There were three oral student speakers this year. There were 8 student posters, which is great. Bill Barr gave a poster as an industry professional. Thetford would like to have more industry professionals give poster presentations. The awards were presented at the Banquet on Tuesday evening. The winners were: 1st Place Oral presentation winner: Shea A. Keene for “A Survey of the Volatile Profiles of Daylily Species and Hybrids”, by S. A. Keene, T.S. Johnson, C.L. Sigler, T.N. Kalk, P. Genho, and T.A. Colquhoun of the University of Florida; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Oral Presentation winner: Gabriel Campbell Martínez for “Seed germination of *Crocantemum arenicola* (coastal sand frostweed)”, by Gabriel Campbell Martínez, Anna Dicks, Mack Thetford and Debbie Miller of the University of Florida; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Oral Presentation winner: Debalina Saha for “Improving Nursery Crop Weed Control by Assessing Herbicide Movement through Organic Mulch”, by Debalina Saha, Chris Marble, Brian J. Pearson, Hector E. Perez, Gregory E. Macdonald, and Dennis Odero of the University of Florida.

There were 6 students, including the three oral research paper participants who received \$500 travel grants. The 3 oral paper awardees also received monetary awards of \$1000, \$500 and \$250, respectively.

Thetford thanked the many judges who participated in the process of reviewing papers and the oral presentations. He is hopeful with the ongoing outreach of the SR that more students will participate in the *Charlie Parkerson IPPS Student Research* program.

Creech thanked Thetford for all of his efforts.

**Nominating Committee Report.** Chair, Maarten van der Giessen and his committee of Kevin Gantt and Laura Miller reported that the slate of officers for 2018-2019 were:

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Elected Positions

Elliott Hallum	President
Brie Arthur	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President
Bobby Green	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President
Dr. Christine Coker	Director (1 yr.)
Mike Roe	Director (1 yr.)
Dr. Judson LeCompte	Director (2 yrs.)
David Nizinski	Director (2 yrs.)
Dr. Dave Creech	Past President
Bill Turk	International Delegate
Tom Saunders	International Alternate Delegate

### Appointed Positions

Donna Foster	Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Fred Davies	Editor
Laura Barth	Webmaster
Brie Arthur	Social Media Chair

### Membership Committee

Dr. Chris Marble	Chair	
Dr. Christine Coker	1-yr Director	(1 yr.)
Mike Rowe	1-yr Director	(1 yr.)
Dr. Judson LeCompte	2-yrs Director	(2 yrs.)
David Nizinski	2-yrs Director	(2 yrs.)
Jason Stagg	1-yr Director (LA 2019)	(1 yr.)
Elizabeth Page	2-yrs Director (OK 2019)	(2 yrs.)
Blane (Brandon) Stokley	3-yrs Director (AL)	(3 yrs.)
Lis Meyer	4-yr Director (NC)	(4 yrs.)

### Long-Range Site Committee

Dr. Amy Fulcher, Chair	(TN) (1 yr.)
Dr. Allen Owings	(LA) (2 yrs.)
Dr. Todd Lasseigne	(OK) (3 yrs.)
Jeremy Pickens	(AL) (4 yrs.)
TBA	(NC) (5 yrs.)
Past President – Dr. David Creech	

### Charlie Parkerson Student Research Competition

Dr. Mack Thetford, Chair

**Meadows Award Selection Committee**

Laura Miller	(PPP Pres)	(1 yr.)
Dr. Patricia Knight	(2017 winner)	(1 yr.)
Kevin Gantt	(PP Pres)	(2 yrs.)
Buddy Lee	(2018 winner)	(2 yrs.)
Dr. David Creech	(P Pres)	(3 yrs.)

**Education Endowment Committee**

Dr. Fred Davies	(Editor)
Donna Foster	(Sec-Tres)
Dr. Mack Thetford	(CP Student Res. Chair)
Brie Arthur	(1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President)
Tom Saunders	(Intl. Alternate Delegate)
Buddy Lee	(Recent Meadows Awardee)

**Fellows Screening Committee**

Bobby Green, Chair	(2 <sup>nd</sup> VP)	(1 yr.)
Scott Langlois		(1 yr.)
Blake Jones		(2 yrs.)
Dr. Todd Lasseigne		(3 yrs.)

**Audit committee**

Dr. David Creech	(P Pres)	(1 yr.)
Elliott Hallum	(Pres)	(2 yrs.)
Bill Turk	(Intl. Delegate)	(1 yr.)

**Finance Advisory Committee**

Alan Shapiro, Chair		(1 yr.)
Dr. Jim Robbins		(2 yrs.)
Blake Jones		(3 yrs.)

**Nomination Committee**

Laura Miller, Chair	(PPP Pres)	(1 yr.)
Kevin Gantt	(PP Pres)	(2 yrs.)
Dr. Dave Creech	(P Pres)	(3 yrs.)

**Vivian Munday Young Horticultural  
Professional Scholarship Work Program****Selection Committee (Dr. Mack Thetford, facilitator)**

Bob Black/ Tom Saunders	(2014 Fellows)	(1 yr.)
John Ruter	(2015 Fellow)	(2 yrs)
Buddy Lee	(2016 Fellow)	(3 yrs.)



### **Sponsorship Committee**

Bobby Green, Chair (2<sup>nd</sup> VP) (1 yr.)  
 Dr. Alan Owings, Local Site Chair (1 yr.)  
 Dr. Christine Coker, 1-year Director (1 yr.)  
 Mike Roe, 1-year Director (1 yr.)

### **Secretary/Treasurer, Editor Review Committee**

Dr. David Creech, Chair (P Pres)  
 Dr. Judson LeCompte (2-yr Director)  
 David Nizinski (2-yr Director)

### **Technical Communications Committee**

Bobby Green, Chair (2<sup>nd</sup> VP)  
 Tom Saunders (International Alt. Delegate)  
 Dr. Judson LeCompte (2-year Director)  
 Brie Arthur Social Media Chair  
 Laura Barth (Web Master)  
 Donna Foster (Sec-Tres)  
 Dr. Donna Fare (Past-International Delegate)

President Creech remarked that the International Delegate, Alternate International Delegate and International President (in those years the SR hosts the International) are voted on by the membership. The elected positions of the EC Board are voted on by the membership – and nominations are always open to the floor. The membership does not vote for the Sec-Tres, Editor, Web Master or Social Media / Facebook Manager – who are appointed by the EC. Committee positions are done by SOP. The SR leadership welcomes and encourages anyone wishing to serve in any elected or non-elected position to contact Sec-Tres Donna Foster about their interest. After the slate of nominees was presented and nominations were open to the floor - a motion was made by Kevin Gantt and seconded by Charlie Parkerson that the slate of candidates be accepted, which was unanimously approved. President Creech thanked van der Giessen for his report.

**The Resolution Committee Report.** Brie Arthur presented the report which is attached. President Creech thanked Arthur for her report.

**Old Business.** President Creech asked for old business issues. Donna Foster remarked on the status of the SR- IPPS nursery trade show promotions and exhibits. This was the first year of trade show booths at Mobile, Texas and Tennessee. Bobby Green, Brie Arthur, Bill Turk and others have been participating. We need volunteer help from IPPS members to promote the IPPS. Charles Parkerson thanked the EC for printing double-sided name tags at his request last year.

President Creech asked for any other old business. There was none.

**New Business.** Kevin Gantt reported on the SR-Education Endowment (SREE), which the SR initiated last year. It is being managed by HRI. There was an anonymous benefactor who contributed \$20,000 towards the endowment in 2016. There was \$9956 raised last night at the live and silent auctions (\$9300 has been received to date); this will be added to the SREE, which will now totals \$40,152. The EC votes annually to use all of the auction monies raised towards the SREE. The EC has an initial \$60,000 goal within 3-years.

There is also an Education Endowment Committee that makes recommendations to HRI – for allocating monies to student/ young professional awardees during a given year. The intent of the Education Endowment is for

educational out-reach – and also maintaining registration costs of future meetings at affordable levels for our membership (since less educational funds will be drawn from the general budget).

The EC set up the Endowment with HRI so there would be maximum flexibility in using both the principal and interest. There is also a marketing brochure that has been passed out and is available on-line (member section of the SR-IPPS website) – with a description of the Endowment and marketing plan. The donations will be paid directly to HRI as a 501(c)3 (for the SREE) - so that donors can receive tax credit. There is a form that can be downloaded electronically from the webpage. All SR members will get the Education Endowment brochure in their membership renewal form in December. The Endowment will continue be promoted through the social media committee. President Creech thanked Gantt for his report and encouraged active participation of the membership in growing the Endowment.

Charles Parkerson raised the problem of ER coming to North Carolina to hold their annual meeting. Kevin Gantt responded that the SR-IPPS EC is raising strong objections to the Eastern Region coming to Raleigh in 2021, particularly since the SR will be hosting the International in NC in 2023. Elliott Hallum and Dave Creech are to co-write a letter to the Eastern Region for them to pick another location – and welcome them to join the international tour in NC in 2023.

James Harden addressed the need to promote the green industry more with high school students and non-traditional colleges, as well as land-grants. He is involved with a Texas Nursery Landscape Association task force program with local high school students, including the FFA. They are taking students, putting them on half-day work programs to expose them to the nursery industry. They are being given skills, including plumbing, welding, etc. We need to also look for non-ag students to grow the nursery industry. It is up to the industry to do a better job to promote nursery career opportunities. President Creech thanked Harden for his comments.

President Creech asked for any other new business. There was none.

**Passing of the Gavel.** President Creech remarked that it was a humbling experience, honor and privilege to serve as President. He was thankful for the personal growth and the proactive thinking of the EC Board and membership. He then passed the gavel to incoming new President, Elliott Hallem.

**Closing Remarks of new President Dr. David Creech.** New President Elliott Hallem presented a plaque to Creech in recognition of his outstanding leadership during the year, countless hours of dedication, and for being such a good mentor and President. Hallem acknowledged all the time and effort that Creech does in behalf of the organization.

Hallem remarked that it is a humbling experience, honor and privilege to serve the SR-IPPS as President. He thanked Charlie and Art Parkerson and friends at Lancaster Farms for their influence on his career. He recognized Bill Turk and Bob Black for making him feel very welcome as a new member at his first IPPS meeting in 2004. Welcoming new people is critical to the organization! He thanked Donna Foster and Fred Davies for their help and support. He acknowledged previous leaders: Laura Miller, Kevin Gantt, Maarten van der Giessen, Dave Creech and others for their influence. He acknowledged Brie Arthur for her passion and Chris Marble for serving on the EC with the new student membership program. He also thanked the talented speakers and moderators who took time to seek and share. He thanked the local site committee: Amy Fulcher, Donna Fare, Elliott Hallum, Alex Newbauer and Anthony Witcher and their committee and fabulous volunteers. He thanked his wife, Madeline, for her support. He thanked his parents for teaching him work ethic and the love of growing and nurturing living things. He welcomed all to attend the 2019 meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

President Hallem then called the meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.



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The Sidney B. Meadows Award of Merit was presented to Buddy Lee, Transcend Nursery, Independence, Louisiana on October 22, 2018.

Dr. Sandra Wilson and Dennis Niemeyer became Fellows of the IPPS-SRNA on October 22, 2018.

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There were 22 money sponsors, plus 2 in-kind . There was \$41,500 received in sponsorships, plus \$8,000 in-kind sponsorship

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There was \$9956 was raised at the auction, which was in support of the SR-IPPS Education Endowment.

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The SR-IPPS Education Endowment balance is \$40,512 with contributions made at the auction and through additional contributions to the base donation of \$20,000.

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This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that 3 student oral research presentations were given. 1st Place Oral presentation winner: Shea A. Keene for “A Survey of the Volatile Profiles of Daylily Species and Hybrids”, by S. A. Keene, T.S. Johnson, C.L. Sigler, T.N. Kalk, P. Genho, and T.A. Colquhoun of the University of Florida; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Oral Presentation winner: Gabriel Campbell Martínez for “Seed germination of *Crocantemum arenicola* (coastal sand frostweed)”, by Gabriel Campbell Martínez, Anna Dicks, Mack Thetford and Debbie Miller of the University of Florida; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Oral Presentation winner: Debalina Saha for “Improving Nursery Crop Weed Control by Assessing Herbicide Movement through Organic Mulch”, by Debalina Saha, Chris Marble, Brian J. Pearson, Hector E. Perez, Gregory E. Macdonald, and Dennis Otero of the University of Florida.

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Lindsay Day was selected from the SRNA for the ***SR-IPPS Early-Career Exchange Program*** to visit the European industry in 2018. In the reciprocal exchange, Jasper Schermer, from the European Region, was hosted by Judson LeCompte (J. Berry Nursery) from the SR,.

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This year’s “4-pack” work students (***Vivian Munday Young Horticultural Professional Scholarship Work program***) were George Grant (University of Florida), Kaitlin Barrios (University of Georgia), Nastaran Basiri Johromi (University of Tennessee) and John Nix (North Carolina State University).

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There were 261 registered attendees at this year’s annual meeting.

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Regular Membership increased to 257 (2018) members [plus 13 new Student members = 270 total members]. This is the highest membership in over 10 years; 253 (2017), 231 (2016), 232 (2015) and 225 (2014).

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- Minutes submitted by Fred Davies

**IPPS-SRNA  
RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
20 October - 24 October 2018**

Be it resolved that the membership of the International Plant Propagators Society-Southern Region North America, recognizes the many hours of work and planning required to plan and execute our meeting, expresses its appreciation and thanks to the following people:

David Creech, President - for his guidance and leadership

Elliott Hallum, 1st Vice-President - for organizing an outstanding program.

Brie Arthur, 2nd Vice-President, Sponsorship Chair - for her success with sponsorships for the meeting.

Fred Davies, Editor - for his continued dedication to this society and for his work on the Proceedings

Donna Foster, Secretary and Treasurer - for her efficient work with the society, including managing budgets and the business of the IPPS-Southern Region with courtesy and kindness.

Stuart Inman, Webmaster - for managing the webpage.

Brie Arthur, Social Media / Facebook Manager - For managing social media.

The outstanding local site committee of Amy Fulcher, Donna Fare, Elliott Hallum, Alex Newbauer and Anthony Witcher and their committee and fabulous volunteers for site selection, meal and transportation arrangements, and for organizing two days of exciting tours.

Mack Thetford for his continued service as the Awards Committee Chairman of The Charlie Parkerson Student Research Awards program. Thanks to all committee members for their dedication in reviewing student papers and posters as well as the student competition selections.

Thank you to the student poster presenters (John Penney, Brianna Heilsnis, Asija Rice) and the student speakers (Gabriel Campbell, Dabalina Saha, Shea Keene)

Special thanks to all the moderators and speakers for their efforts in educating us and their willingness to share their knowledge with us. Thanks to: Alan Windham, Allen Owings, Ben Cecil, Ben Ford, Brian Jackson, Buddy Lee, Carol Reese, Chris Marble, Christopher Brown Jr., Robert Trigiano, Emily Driskill, Esteban Herrera, James Harden, John Ruter, Kyle Creamer, Lis Meyer, Milton Schaefer, Suzanne Wainwright, Thomas Molnar, David Marks and William Hackney.

Plant Auction Committee - Alex Newbauer and Anthony Witcher for their work in collecting, describing, displaying and selling unique plants. Thanks to all those members who donated in the spirit of sharing.

Thanks to all of those involved with the following committees for their continued dedication and service:

Audit Committee

Executive Committee

Fellows Screening Committee

Finance Advisory Committee

International Delegation

Long Range Site Committee

Membership Committee

Nomination Committee

Sponsorship Committee

Secretary/Treasurer and Editor Review Committee

Vivian Mundy Young Horticultural Professional Selection Committee

Scott Langlois for his technical expertise and commitment to managing the audio and visual systems during the conference.

Tour Hosts: Tennessee State University Nursery Research Center, Blankenship Farms and Nursery, Turner and Sons Nursery, Simpson Nursery, Mountain Creek Nursery, Hale and Hines Nursery, Tennessee Valley Nursery, Lantenn Nursery, Herd Farms, Hidden Hollow Nursery, Jack Daniels Distillery.

A special thanks to the Vivian Munday Young Horticultural Professional Scholarship Work Program –“4-pack” participants: George Grant, Kaitlin Barrios, Nastaran Basiri Johromi and John Nix.

Endless appreciation to our sponsors for their generous support of the 2018 annual meeting:

**Platinum sponsor-**

Hidden Hollow Nursery

**Gold sponsors-**

Alabama Nursery and landscape Association, Endless Summer and First Editions, Blackmore Co/ Ellepot USA, Environmental Design, Inc., Greenleaf Nursery Co, Harrell’s, LLC, Haviland Plastic Products, IC-L Osmocote, J. Berry Nursery, Mountain Creek Nursery, NuFarm Americas, Inc., OHP, Inc., Rootmaker Products Co.

**Silver sponsors-**

Corteva Agriscience, Don Blocker and McHutchison, Inc., Hawksridge Farms, Inc., Hip Labels, Inc., Plant Development Services, Inc., Star Roses and Plants, Tennessee Valley Nursery, Transcend Nursery

**Bronze Sponsor-**

Pleasant Cove Nursery

And finally our thanks to the Read house Historic Inn and Suites for their southern hospitality throughout the conference.

In conclusion, let these efforts be noted with much appreciation.

Respectfully submitted by Brie Arthur, Second Vice-President